



# *City of Danville* **POLICE**

## *Coalition For A Safe Danville*

Crime in Danville  
Statistics and Trends  
January 26, 2010



# Crime Factors

- Population density, composition, stability
- Economic and employment conditions
- Cultural, educational, religious practices
- Family cohesiveness
- Climate
- Quality of police appointments & reporting
- Policies of courts, prosecutors, corrections
- Citizen attitudes toward crime and police
- Crime reporting practices of citizens

Source: Virginia State Police, CRIME IN VIRGINIA 2008

# How Is Crime Compared?

- By only *one* of the factors – population
- Not the best measure, but quick and easy
- For instance, in 2008:
  - Fairfax County – 1 million – 19 murders
  - Richmond – 200,000 – 31 murders
  - Danville – 45,000 – 11 murders

# Categories of Major Crime

- Murder & manslaughter
- Sexual assault
- Robbery
- Aggravated assault
- Motor vehicle theft
- Burglary
- Larceny

**How does Danville  
compare?**

***FACT:* Of the 11,112 cities and towns in the United States, only about 750 are larger than Danville.**

***FACT:* Danville is in the top 7% (by size) of all cities in the United States.**

# City Size

- 39 cities in Virginia
- Danville is 13<sup>th</sup> in size
- Alexandria, Chesapeake, Hampton, Harrisonburg, Lynchburg, Newport News, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Richmond, Roanoke, Suffolk and Virginia Beach are larger

# Crime Rates Fluctuate Year to Year

Selected Cities With Higher Crime  
Rates Than Danville's

- 2005 – Charlottesville, Roanoke, Bristol
- 2006 - Charlottesville, Roanoke, Bedford
- 2007 - Emporia, Fredericksburg, Roanoke
- 2008 – Emporia, Franklin, Roanoke



# Danville and Fredericksburg

- Consistently have about the same crime rate year after year
- Danville – 45,000
- Fredericksburg – 23,000

# Good News First!

- Overall, reported crime in Danville dropped 16% from 2008 to 2009\*
  - Murder/manslaughter dropped 18%
  - Sexual assault remained unchanged
  - Robbery dropped 27%
  - Aggravated assault dropped 30%
  - Motor vehicle theft dropped 29%
  - Burglary increased 1.7%
  - Larceny dropped 18%

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2009\* = preliminary

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<b>Sex Assault</b>	19	22	16	28	26	15	5	9	10	10*
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<b>Larceny</b>	2177	1980	1870	1833	1876	1798	1612	1782	2095	1712*
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2990</b>	<b>2833</b>	<b>2681</b>	<b>2599</b>	<b>2663</b>	<b>2622</b>	<b>2365</b>	<b>2642</b>	<b>2943</b>	<b>2474*</b>

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# Murder/Manslaughter

## ■ 2008

- 1 playing with firearm
- 1 gang related
- 1 gambling
- 3 domestic
- 5 drug related
- TOTAL of 11

## ■ 2009

- 1 traffic fatality
- 1 argument
- 1 burglary
- 1 robbery
- 2 gang related
- 3 drug related
- TOTAL of 9

# Clearance Rate

■ 2009 -	9 deaths -	78% cleared
■ 2008 -	11	100%
■ 2007 -	5	100%
■ 2006 -	4	50%
■ 2005 -	8	75%
■ 2004 -	4	100%
■ 2003 -	4	50%
■ 2002 -	7	71%
■ 2001 -	4	50%
■ 2000 -	10	80%

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# Burglaries in Danville

- In 2009\*, only 15 of 514 burglaries exceeded \$5,000 in loss
- Most common items taken: TV, DVD, computer, game console, jewelry, clothing
- Suspects ranged from ex-lovers, family, friends, guests, neighbors to unknown

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# Larcenies in Danville

- Of the 1,712 reported larcenies in 2009\*
  - 2 - pickpocket
  - 10 - purse snatching
  - 12 - from vending machines
  - 84 - motor vehicle parts
  - 107 - from buildings
  - 311 – from vehicles
  - 506 – shoplifting
  - 680 – all other

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# Danville's Crime Rate

- Overall, not excessive for cities of similar size
- Increase in burglaries since 2007 is a great concern
- Price of copper adversely affected larceny rate in 2008
- Murder rate is high – should average 4 per year for average city of our population
- Preliminary statistics for 2009 indicate a reduction



# What Are We Doing About It?

- Strong emphasis on crime prevention
- Improved data collection and mining
- Two full-time gang investigators
- Willingness to try new methods
- Seeking stronger working relationships and effective collaboration with all of you!

## **Contact Information:**

**City of Danville**

**Police Department**

**427 Patton St.**

**Danville, VA 24541**

**Phone: (434) 799-6510**

**Email: [danvillepd@ci.danville.va.us](mailto:danvillepd@ci.danville.va.us)**